

SECTION 4.0

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

CHAPTER 4.0

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

4.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Sections 4.2 through 4.12 in this EIR provide an integrated presentation of the environmental setting, environmental impacts, and proposed mitigation measures for the following environmental issue areas:

- Land Use and Planning
- Transportation and Traffic
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Noise
- Geology and Soils
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Biological Resources
- Air Quality
- Cultural and Paleontological Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Aesthetics

Potential effects of implementing the proposed project, including cumulative effects, are identified along with mitigation measures recommended to lessen or reduce identified impacts. In cases where no mitigation is available, this fact is noted.

The setting section describes the environment in the project and study areas as it exists before the commencement of the project. The setting is presented from site, local, subregional and/or regional perspectives, as appropriate to each environmental topic. The effects of the project are defined as changes to the environmental setting that are attributable to the project.

Impacts are identified and determined to be significant, cumulatively significant, significant unavoidable, less than significant, or beneficial. The cumulative impact analysis in this EIR is based on the implementation of the proposed project as well as approved and anticipated urban development in the cities of Roseville, Rocklin, and Lincoln, as identified in their general plans. A summary of cumulative impacts is provided in Chapter 6.0.

A significant impact is defined as “...a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project...” For each category of physical condition evaluated in this EIR, criteria for significance have been developed based on factual or scientific information; regulatory standards of local, state, and federal agencies; and goals, objectives, and policies identified in the Placer County General Plan.

Mitigation measures identified in this report are characterized in one of three categories: 1) measures necessary to reduce the identified impact below a level of significance; 2) measures recommended to reduce the magnitude of a significant impact, but not below a level of significance; and 3) measures recommended to reduce the magnitude of a less than significant impact. Where implementation of more than one mitigation measure is needed to reduce an impact below a level of significance, this fact is noted. Unless stated otherwise, where multiple mitigation measures are listed, all are necessary to mitigate an impact.